Voice of the Press

Canada, The Empire and The World at Large

CANADA

TROUBLED PEDESTRIANS

Pedestrians on the highway are at a loss to know whether to walk on the right or the left side for the greatest safety. Some advocate that pedestrians should walk on the left side so that they will face the cars that are approaching. If they walk on the right side they may be run down by the traffic behind them. An insurance company in the United States has made a survey of this matter and statistics of accidents showed that the greatest percentage of fatalities occurred among those who walked facing traffic rather than among those who walk in the same direction with it. What ever side you choose you need to keep both eyes peeled for all autos. — Walkerton Herald-Times.

GRASSHOPPERS

The grasshoppers must have learned of the surplus of wheat. In any case they are preparing to reduce this year's crop. Not only is Western Canada worried over a grasshopper invasion, but in the State of Utah they have a plague of the insects. They are said to be so numeraus and so hungry that they sound like a herd of buffalo in a cornfield. —London Free Press.

HYDRO FOR THE FARMS

The Hydro load for rural sections has increased 68 per cent. during the depression and is now greater than that used by Kingston, Belleville, East Windsor, Chatham, Welland, St. Thomas, Woodstock and Owen Sound combined. Sir Adam Beck was laughed at when he foretold all this development, but it is rapidly coming true. —St. Catharines Standard.

HITCHING POST BACK

One of the most remarkable pieces of news comes from Drumheller. The city council has voted money to erect a 40-foot hitching rack for horses. It is many years since the old hitching rack disappeared from Drumheller, but it is said that: "Since more horses are now being used by farmers, the difficulty of hitching them to some solid object has arisen and the return of the hitching rack has been deemed necessary. — Staint John Telegraph-Journal.

GETTING INTO RUTS

Someone has said that the only difference between a rut and a grave is that the latter is a little deeper than the former. That there is much wisdom imbedded in the saying will be evident when we give the matter a little thought. Ruts tend to get even deeper, and getting out of them is likely to grow more and more difficult, and keeping in them less and less satisfactory. We ought really to try very hard not to get into ruts.

But the trouble is that this is always so hard to do. And it is hard for the very good reason that there are so many things which we learn to do well only as we do them according to a fixed or regular pattern or method and regularity and routine are very much given to the wearing of ruts somewhere; occasionally even in a man's soul. For most of us it will take real, if not heroic, effort to keep out of ruts, some of them very dangerous ones to get into.—Brighton Ensign.

AFTER THE FLOOD

The spring flood has carried innumerable fish, including black bass and speckled trout, into small ponds in fields adjoining the river. When the water receded the fish were left. Auburn folk are wading in with long rubber boots and coming out with baskets of fish, caught with the hands.—Exeter Times-Advocate.

PUBLICITY FOR CANADA

That it is worth while going out of our way to bring tourists from all over the world, and especially from the United States, to Canada, no one will question. An industry which brought us $300,000,000 in 1930 even admitting that this is a record figure, merits cultivation. As Theodore Morgan well said before the Senate committee, the money spent on publicity to make Canada known outside is one of the best and most profitable of investments. Let us have no fear, therefore, to appropriate adequate sums of money for a vast campaign of publicity to make known the advantages of Canada, both for business industrial establishments farming, touring summer and winter sports, etc. We will not regret it; for it will bring back a thousandfold return. — La Presse, Montreal.

LOOKING FORWARD

Nudist camps, it is predicted will flourish this year. Who knows but that the day will come when the Doukhobors wil have to put on their clothes to attract attention?—Hamilton Spectator.

ONTARIO'S GOLD

Thirty years ago Ontarios production of all metals—gold included—was $5,000,000. Last year its gold production alone was $60,000,000; and since 1891 it has been $501,000,000. On top of that we are producing nickel at the rate of $20,000,000 a year, copper at the rate of $9,000,000. In the last four years $190,000,000 worth of gold has been taken from Porcupine and Kirkland Lake. More than $153,000,000 was paid out in gold dividends. These, truly, are figures for pessimists.—Ottawa Journal.

A WORD FOR PARENTS

Perhaps it is time that someone issued an appeal to be kind to dumb parents. Adjudicators, teachers, authors and the public must be aware that by and large they mean well.—Winnipeg Free Press.

A GREAT ENGINEERING FEAT

One of the greatest engineering feats of modern times, the Mersey Tunnel has now been completed and thousands of people walked through it at the Easter week-end. The tunnel is to be formally opened by the King in July. It brings together Liverpool and Bootle on the Lancashire and Birkenhead and Wallasey on the Cheshire side, four boroughs with a total population of close on 1¼ millions. On April 3rd, 1928, the preliminary tunnel from Liverpool met from Birkenhead under the middle of the river. So accurate was the survey work that the divergence for line, length and level averaged less than one inch.—Brockville Recorder and Times.

THE EMPIRE

SHIPS OR PLANES

The simple truth is that the nation has got the money for both more warplanes and more warships. The need for warplanes is paramount and that for warships secondary. It is on warplanes that those responsible for the nation's safety must concentrate. —London Evening News.

SAFE FROM EARTHQUAKES

London is safe from earthquakes. Or, at least, if one did affect the city it would be so serious that the rest of the world would be destroyed. Dr. W. E. Winton, the seismologist, made that statement, and explained it in a lecture at the Horniman Museum. The reason London's city's safety, is that it sits on a "soft cushion of clay."—London Express.

THE STILL GILBERTIAN ISLAND

No more triumphant example of the British genius for compromise can be imagined than the proposal to impose a speed limit for just 19 hours day and only an roads that are lighted by street lamps. As Sir Austen Chamberlain pointed out the other day, our ways are beyond the comprehension of benighted but admiring foreigners. — Manhester Sunday Chronicle.

AIRWAYS IN INDIA

Air development in India has been of disappointingly slow growth, and nearly ten years have passed since Sir Samuel Hoare and the late Sir Sefton Brancker used to rouse our hopes with talk of a four-day mail service between London and Delhi, and of feeder services to all points of the compass in India. But in 1933, despite the economic depression, new and substantial advance was made and at the beginning of 1934 it is possible to feel that this country has at last begun to have a civil aviation of its own and that development henceforward will be steady. The weekly Karachi-Bombay-Madras service has proved its worth in connection with mails, but the time is ripe for a great increase in passenger traffic by air.—Calcutta Statesman.

GOOD TIMES AGAIN

The face of Johannesburg changes as rapidly as that of any other city in the world—and more rapidly than most. Anyone who visited the Rand twenty, ten, or even five years ago, and had not seen Johannesburg since, would scarcely recognise it today. And now that the lull in the building trade caused by the depression is over, expansion is proceeding more rapidly than ever. It is almost impossible to open a Rand newspaper nowadays without coming across a report of some big property deal or an announcement of the impending erection of another large block of flats or business premises. These are news items of public interest and find their way into the Press. In addition, the building of private houses in the outer suburbs is going on apace, and Johannesburg is now a city of 129 townships, covering 82 square miles, and possessing 832 miles of streets and a population of 391,830.

THE WORLD ON THE MEND

In the last three difficult years New Zealand has done many things in an attempt to correct her economic disequilibrium. Yet it was well understood that, although she should not neglect such remedies as she could apply internally, she was for the greater part dependent upon recovery overseas. That was natural and inevitable in a country that relied on selling a large proportion of her production in the world's markets, and particularly in the British market. Such being the case, New Zealand can fairly and confidently expect to share in the upward movement recorded in many reports from overseas, and especially from Great Britain. The firmer tone is naturally most speedily registered on that most mercurial of all barometers, the stock exchange, but it has also spread through the markets, average prices today being higher than those of 930. More encouraging and significant than the steady climb of gilt-edged stocks is the new life in industrials, a rise justified by an increase in profits last year of 79 per cent.

Mary Gets Parting Gift

President William Lang of the Toronto Anglers' Association presented Mary with a trayful of beautiful speckled trout caught the same morning at Caledon Mountain club. The trout were uncooked, beautifully garnished with colored butter and parsley, and Mary had them cooked in the aeroplane that carried her across from St. Louis to Hollywood. President Lang and T. W. Jull got up at 4 a.m., caught twenty trout weighing 16 pounds and were back in Toronto before office hours.

Religious Leaders Wage War on War

New York—Believing that they fired "a shot which will be heard around the world" religious leaders closed a two-day conference on war and economic justice here recently.

Other conferences are to be held throughout the United States and Rabbi Edward L. Israel, of Baltimore, urged that in addition a group of men be organized "other than the pious good-will group, who would stand together in opposition to war and in any economic controversy and as a group to disrupt the community on that issue if need be."

The Rev. Edmund B. Chaffee of the Labor Temple stated that such a group exists in the ministers' union of 8000 members, of which he is president. Dr. Allen Knight Chalmers, summing up the conference, said that the whole emphasis has shown that these ministers are through with war.

Cider in Wrong Place

Goderich—Because he did not know the fine points of the law, Thomas Day, Howick township farmer, hid his supply of cider in his barn. Police found it under six feet of straw. This cost Day $28 in county magistrate's court. Tipsy people emerging from the barn gave police their clue. However, had Day kept his cider in his residence he would have been within the law, the court explained.

Plan to End 'Reckless Waste of Lives' in State of New York

NEW YORK—The use of public funds to pay the cost of childbearing to end a "reckless waste of lives" was advocated recently by Dr. Thos. Parran Jr., New York State Commissioner of Health.

He told the Maternity Centre Association that there occur in New York State each year more than 17,000 deaths as a result of "our mismanagement of the childbearing function."

His plans would provide state money to pay the entire medical, hospital and nursing costs of childbearing for every woman unable to provide "the best of care" for herself. There would be no pauper's oath or similar humiliating conditions, he said.

HOLLYWOOD TAKES ACTION TO PREVENT KIDNAPPINGS

Hollywood, Cal.—The dreaded kidnapper finds many barriers raised against him in the movie colony.

The fate of William F. Gettle, oil millionaire who was abducted from his summer home in Arcadia, Cal., never has befallen a movie actor or actress, but the possibility of it has put most of them on the alert.

In the homes of the film folks, many of whom are neighbors of the Gettle family, are guards, elaborate alarm systems, vicious dogs, stocked arsenals heavily bolted doors and reinforced window locks.

No more far-reaching precautions have been taken in Hollywood than those employed by Harold Lloyd, who once was threatened by kidnappers. His great estate is incolsed by an unually high wall. At the only entrance a guard, heavily armed, is on duty 24 hours a day. A number of Great Dane dogs roam the grounds.

The home of Marlene Dietrich is filled with alarm systems and the windows are barred for the protection of her daughter. Guards are about the estate 24 hours a day.

Similar precautions have been taken by Bing Crosby. Mae West has had triple-bolted doors installed in her home, and keeps two special guards from the District Attorney's office, and one personal guard ever on hand with a sawed-off shotgun.

Edward G. Robinson, whose gang characters were foremost in the cycle of crime pictures, has barred the entire wing of his home in which his son sleeps and plays and surrounded it with guards.

Likewise has Ann Harding protected the safety of her daughter. Gloria Swanson refuses to allow her children to live in the United States and keeps them in Switzerland.

Warner Baxter has an ingenious system of protection. The foundation of it is a photo electric cell and only those who know the combination, and they're few, can enter his home successfully without getting off a blare of alarms.

Resumes Canters Park

London, Eng.—For the first time since 1932 King George has resumed his early morning canters in Hyde Park.

Astride his afvorite horse His Majesty rode about the bridle paths of Hyde Park almost unnoticed.

The King is believed to be training himself for the more arduous task of a big military review planned for his birthday, June 4th.

Restrict Hoboes Diet

Annapolis Royal, N.S.—Nine hoboes lay in the town jail, restricted to a diet of bread and water by order of the Town Council "as an example to others of their kind who may think they can blow into Annapolis Royal and take possession of the place."

Canada Leading Buyer in Brtiain

London—Purchases in Britain, according to the latest returns of the Board of Trade, show steadily growing increases, with Canada leading all the Dominions. The purchases of Canada made here in the first quarter of 1934 amounted to £444,000 as compared with £260,000 for the first quarter of 1933.

Ontario Girl, 14, Dies From Lockjaw

London, Ont.—Lockjaw infection following minor hand injuries, suffered recently in a schoolyard mishap, proved fatal to 14-year-old Ruby Veale, of Mount Brydges. Ruby fell and another pupil stepped on her hand. She suffered cuts and the dislocation of one finger.

Pulpwood Cutters Given Pay Increase

Fort William—Timber operators of the lakehead district have granted an increase of 40 cents a cord for cutting and peeling pulpwood during the summer, and workers in return have pledged that no strike will be called in district timber camps between May 1 and Sept 1, according to D. A. Clark, President of the Lakehead Timbermen's Association.

More than 1,000 men are affected by the rate rise.

Britain's Imports And Exports Rise

London—The Board of Trade has announced that imports into the United Kingdom during April increased by £5,193,173 or 10.1 per cent. over those of April of last year. In the same month exports increased by the value of £3,704,457 or 14 per cent., while re-exports showed an increase of $1,481,600 or 41.8 per cent. Of the imports 80 per cent. were raw material while 70 per cent. of the exports were manufactured articles.

THE CHINCH BUG

The chinch bug has been known in North America since 1783. During the years 1850 to 1915, it has caused losses in the United States amounting to the enormous sum of $350,000,000. Fortunately the chinch bug has not developed to anything like the same extent in Canada, chiefly through the efforts of the Entomological Branch of the Dominion Department of Agriculture, but during some years the bug has been responsible for important injury to meadow grasses, wheat, corn and oats in the province of Ontario.

$320,000 ADDED TO FORTUNE FOR MOTHER OF MOST BABIES

Toronto—The estate of Charles Vance Millar, the bulk of which was bequeathed to the Toronto mother giving birth to the most children in the 10-year period following his death, has been increased by a cash payment of $320,000 by the Brewing Corporation of Canada, in part payment for the Millar estate holdings in O'Keefe's Brewery which have been purchased by the Corporation

It was learned the full price accepted for the Millar holdings was $400,000 and the remaining $80,000 must be paid in cash within six months.

When Mr. Millar died suddenly, terms of his will aroused wide interest. Shares of brewery and Ontario Jockey Club stock were left to prominent Ontario clergymen, while the famous "baby clause" has also been the subject of much discussion.

Two years ago the Ontario Government tried to estreat the will and turn the money over to University of Toronto. A bill to that effect was withdrawn in the legislature following protests.

Mrs. Grace Bagnato, wife of a police court interpreter, is now believed to be leading claimant to the estate. She has given birth to six children in the past 10 years in Toronto, and already had a large family. The estate is to be turned over, barring unforeseen circumstances, in 1936.

Women Members of British Legion Under Criticism

LONDON—The deportment of women members of the British Legion when they take part in parades provoked a lively discussion at the conference of the women's section in London.

Mrs. F. Hilton Moore moved a resolution suggesting that a certain amount of drilling beforehand would improve matters.

She said that for some years she had been unhappy about the impression parading women must make upon the ordinary man in the street, who had neither the imagination nor the opportunity of realizing the wonderful work done by the women's section. "In my own branch," said Mrs. Hilton Moore, "a member of the executive, a sergeant-major, has kindly taken us in hand, and in a simple manner has taught us the right ways of dealing with the standard on all occasions, and, at any rate, how to keep in step while marching."

Ex-Service Woman

Mrs. MacGregor Whyte said that she was an ex-service woman, and as such had had a certain amount of drilling during the war. "I went a short while ago to a dedication ceremony with my legion branch," she said. "A number of women members were invited, and we were given the honor of leading off. Believe me, we lookd pathetic. We were supposed to march four in column, but women have not the remotest idea of forming fours, and instead we marched in threes and fives. We are asked through the courtesy of the legion to join in their parades, and we have no right to make those parades look ridiculous. Why, I even saw one procession in which a woman was wheeling a perambulator."

Mrs. Davis said, when they had women of 60 and over, as they had in her branch, it was too late to begin drilling them. "We have a certain number of women who have kept in good form by touching their toes, and they could march, but we have in our ranks the mothers of lads who went to the war, and it is only fair to remember that these older women cannot step out like the younger people.

"After a woman has reached the middle-aged spread drilling is not possible for her."

The resolution was lost.

King George Hears Sophie Tucker Sing

LONDON, Eng.—Sophie Tucker gave King George V. the low down recently on how she, as the original "red hot mama" singer, put over the old-time "blues" tunes of 15 and 20 years ago.

She appeared as a surprise number at a command performance in the Palladium Theatre. Her appearance was kept secret until the last minute, when Miss Tucker romped on the stage in old-style manner and went into her song and, in a way, dance.

Howlers

The objective of "he" is "she."

A plagarist is a writer of plays.

A compliment is when you say something to another that he and you know is not true.

Chivalry is the attitude of a man to a strange woman.

A deacon is a mass of inflammable material placed in a prominent position to warn the people.

What happens when there is an eclipse of the sun? A great many people come out to look at it.

The animal which shows the greatest attachment for man is woman.

All brutes are imperfect animals. Man alone is a perfect beast.

Henry Ford was the inventor of perpetual motion.

A ruminant is an animal that chews its cub.

Heredity is a bad thing and it ought to be prevented.

The stomach is a bowl-shaped cavity containing the organs of indigestion.

To be healthy, don't eat any kind of food.

One of the main causes of dust is janitors.

The liver of one of the infernal organs of the body.

A Scout obeys all to whom obedience is due and respects all duly constipated authority.

A person should take a bath once in the summer and not quite so often in the winter.

The theory of exchange, as I understand it, is not very well understood.

In Milton's time England would have been a much holier place if everybody had belonged to the same sex.

Write all you know about Nero: "The less said about Nero the better."

Zero is the king of Rome who played the fiddle.

A demagogue is a vessel containin spirituous liquor.

Newspapers are useful for reporting calamities such as deaths and marriages

Last year many lives were caused by accidents.

The postmaster-general is the postmaster's hired girl.

Businesses are said to be "in the red" when they trade with Russia.

"Bargains" produced at the expense of human misery are nothing short of wolves in sheep's clothing.